What are Scams?

SCAMS ARE FRAUD AND FRAUD IS A CRIME!

Scams come in many different forms, including email, post, telephone or in person by someone making false promises in an attempt to scam potential victims out of their money. There are many of these sorts of scams but some of the most common are fake lotteries, deceptive prize draws or sweepstakes, clairvoyants, computer scams, and romance scams.

Criminals attempt to trick people with flashy, official looking documents or websites, or with convincing telephone sales patter, with the aim of persuading them to send a processing or administration fee, pay postal or insurance costs, buy an overvalued product or make a premium rate phone call.

Doorstep scams are crimes carried out by bogus callers, rogue traders and unscrupulous sales people who call, often uninvited, at people's home under the guise of legitimate business or trade.

Scam Facts

£5-10 BILLION A YEAR

The cost to the UK economy

53% of people aged 65 and over have been targeted by a scam

37% of people have been targeted by a scam five times or more

45% of people have taken no action to protect themselves against scams in the last 12 months

5% of scam victims report the matter to law enforcement

22% of victims don't tell anyone as they feel too embarrassed

65% have taken no action to protect friends and family

SIGN ME UP

Sign up today and take a stand against scams!

You can either sign up online at **friendsagainstscams.org.uk/scammarshals** or complete the information below, pop it into an envelope and send it in to us (no need for a stamp):

Freepost
NTSST
Mail Marshal

☐ Please send me the full Scam Marshal pack.

I understand that Friends Against Scams will only use my address to send me freepost envelopes and the monthly newsletter and will not pass my details onto any other organisations without my consent.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

PHONE NO.

Friends Against SCAMS

NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS
Scams Team

FED UP WITH SCAMS?

Become a Scam Marshal today!

www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk/ScamMarshals

◂ Six weeks worth of scam mail from when Graham first became a Scam Marshal.

Six weeks worth ▸ of scam mail from Graham six months after he became a Scam Marshal.

"The amount of scam mail I receive has reduced from 20-30 letters a week to just 2-3 a week." **– Betty**

"The best thing about the scheme is knowing that something is being done about it (scam mail)." **– George**

What is a Scam Marshal?

A Scam Marshal is any resident in the UK who receives scam mail and wants to put it to good use. Scam Marshals are responsible for collecting scam mail and sending it to the National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team. Scam Marshals also talk to people in their community about all types of Scams to increase awareness.

Why should I become a Scam Marshal?

Becoming a Scam Marshal can be very rewarding and fulfilling work. In many cases it has helped Scam Marshals to:

- Save money
- Improve self-confidence
- Assist with investigations
- Reduce the temptation to respond
- Increase awareness of scams
- Educate and help others
- See a reduction in scam mail

What will you get?

- A certificate confirming your role as an NTS Scams Team Scam Marshal.
- A monthly newsletter that will include highlights and information about what the NTS Scams Team has done with the mail you have sent in.
- A freepost mail bag on a monthly basis to allow you to send your scam mail into the team at no cost to you.
- The opportunity to become a NTS Scams Team Pen Pal, a pen pal project just for Scam Marshals!

Your Role

You can take a stand against scams in your own way and do not have to carry out any set activities. However, below are some suggestions for what you may want to do to get involved:

- Talk to your neighbours about scams and encourage them to be scam aware.
- Use your monthly freepost envelope to send scam mail you receive into NTS Scams Team.
- Contact your local Neighbourhood watch group and talk to them about scams.
- Find out what Friends Against Scams is doing in your area and get involved. (Visit friendsagainstscams.org.uk to find out more).
- Write to your local MP about scams.
- Put up posters in your local area advertising the Scam Marshal scheme.
- Organise a scams awareness coffee morning to talk about scams to your local community.

Contact Us

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www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk/ScamMarshals

Friends Against SCAMS

NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS
Scams Team